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HIGHLIGHTS 28 March - 10 AprilMonday, 28 March

-- SIG (Space) (see Tab A): Approved the Terms of Reference for the Working Group on the Space Station with minor revisions to acknowledge possible need for compartmentation of sensitive information. Approved responsibilities for carrying out NSSD-13, which implements the President's space policy. Agreed studies would not get into organizational or programmatic concerns. The DCI was also added to the studies on survivability and endurance and on basic technology. Acknowledged the need for long-range plan to implement this space policy. Draft studies are to be provided to the SIG for review in July and should be completed by September.

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Tuesday, 29 March

-- You received a very supportive letter from Congressman Boland saying that he would ensure that early retirement for our people serving overseas would be retained. Also noted unlikelihood that any Civil Service Reform measure would be enacted in 1983, partly because of Committee's determination to ensure equitable supplemental retirement package for Federal workers. After touching base with Latimer, we had this posted on the bulletin boards to shore up the troops.

-- Received excellent briefing on the take  material; believe we should provide similar briefing to the President.

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-- Clark forwarded letters from you and George Shultz to the President on the retirement issue to Stockman and urged that he consider our concerns.

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Wednesday, 30 March

-- National Narcotics Border Interdiction System Meeting: Vice President will undertake this effort to extend nationwide what has been accomplished against the narcotics target in Florida. Believe we will have to do more in the narcotics area in the months ahead.

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Substantive highlights

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of our session included the following:

- Soviets are upset about the lack of dialogue with this Administration; they see the Administration as not being serious about trying to understand Soviet problems.
- They will not deploy missiles to Cuba; Ogarkov is upset over the publicity regarding Soviet threats to do so.
- They acknowledged U.S. superiority.
- They acknowledged the vulnerability of their silos.
- They are concerned that the \$150 billion they have poured into their air defense has been negated by our cruise missiles.
- They are puzzled about the furor over their putting one helicopter carrier in the Pacific, where we have seven huge ones.
- The leadership is not at all settled; one-liners circulated commonly among leading officials criticizing the leadership.
- Andropov is serious about his campaign to root out corruption and shore up party discipline, but this is not being well received by the mid-level bureaucrats.
- Ambassador Hartman has no access to Soviet officials.
- Dobrynin believes that Shultz is not serious about arms control.
- The Soviets believe Reagan is good for another six years.
- They have no intention of destroying their SS-20s.

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